

IRRIGATION WATER CONSERVATION

The piping of two irrigation ditch laterals was recently completed, as was a portion of the Clallam-Cline Irrigation Combo project. Clallam Conservation District provided technical and financial assistance on each of the projects.

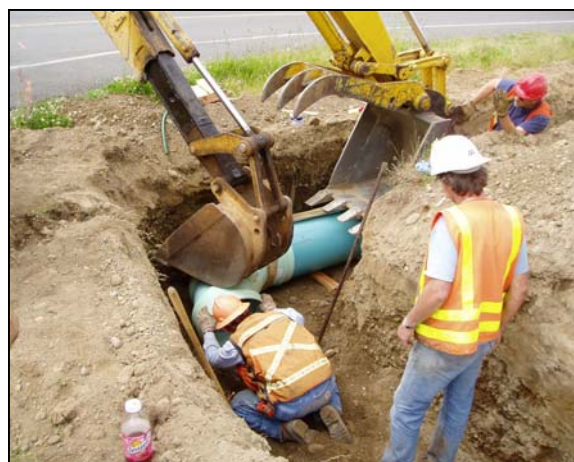
The Sequim Prairie Tri Irrigation Association and Conservation District collaborated with Clallam County Public Works to replace two open ditches with pipelines along Priest and Hendrickson roads. The ditch



Napping on the job!

Just kidding, this guy was hard at work preparing the pipe for installation.

pipework was combined with the Hendrickson Road and Olympic Discovery Trail work that was done earlier this summer by Bruch & Bruch Construction, Inc. The hazardous concrete structures at the intersection of Priest and Hendrickson roads were eliminated and the open ditches along the roads were replaced with buried pipes. Downstream of the intersection 4,253 additional feet of open ditch were replaced with pipeline, enclosing the entire irrigation lateral. The pipeline is closed at the end, eliminating wasted water and greatly reducing the energy requirements for irrigation water application. The new system is projected to save about one-half cubic foot per second of Dungeness River flows or about 150 acre-feet of water each irrigation season.

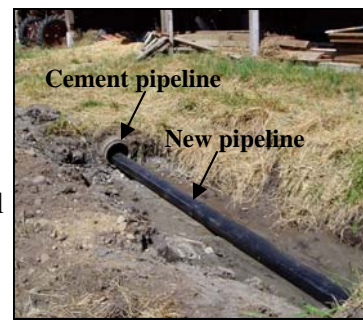


Workers for Bruch & Bruch Construction installing an elbow for the Clallam-Cline project.

Another 2,700 feet of Highland Irrigation District ditch near Washington Harbor was replaced with buried pipeline. The open ditch previously flowed through the Maple View Farm dairy and delivered irrigation and livestock water to the dairy and three properties downstream. The new pipeline eliminates the potential for pollutants to enter the irrigation system, and diverts surplus flows to Bell Creek rather than allowing it to flow out the end of the ditch into Washington Harbor. Some water from this new pipeline is being directed through a test plot designed by Battelle Marine Lab that will evaluate the effectiveness of a water treatment system utilizing fungi.

On the Clallam-Cline Combo project 8,018 feet of pipe were installed to replace portions of Cline Irrigation District main canal that are being rerouted. Another phase of this comprehensive project, involving the replacement of the lower 24,217 feet of Cline main canal and two laterals, just got underway.

Funding for the Maple View Farm piping was provided primarily by a *Pioneers in Conservation* grant from the Puget Sound Shared Strategy for Salmon Recovery. Additional funding was provided by a Conservation Commission *Water Quality Implementation* grant, the Natural Resources Conservation Service *Environmental Quality Incentives Program*, and Maple View Farm. Funding for the Sequim Prairie Tri Irrigation Association piping project was provided primarily by a Conservation Commission *Irrigation Efficiencies* grant and a *Pioneers in Conservation* grant. County road-related piping was paid for by Clallam County Public Works with materials paid for by the Conservation District grants. Multiple funding sources are contributing to the Clallam-Cline Combo project.



A new irrigation pipeline was passed through an old cement pipeline under the barns at Maple View Farm.

2007 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program is a voluntary conservation program through USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). This program provides farmers with both technical and financial assistance for natural resource conservation on agriculture forest lands. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis but interested farmers must submit their applications by November 17th 2006 for consideration for the 2007 funding cycle.

There are currently five EQIP contracts in Clallam County on a variety of agriculture lands such as cranberry, dairy, beef and sheep farms. Clallam County farmers, who were awarded EQIP contracts in 2004, 2005 and 2006, are poised to receive approximately \$129,000 collectively over the duration of their contracts. Contracted practices include fencing livestock out of waterways, pasture management including re-seeding, constructing heavy use areas and waste storage facilities, installing gutters and downspouts and developing alternative livestock watering sources.

In addition to traditional agricultural producers, NRCS encourages forestland owners to also apply for the 2007 EQIP funding cycle. A portion of this year's funding has been set aside for making conservation improvements on forestland. Practices eligible for funding include fixing fish passage barriers on streams, improving forest roads to reduce sedimentation and erosion, forest site preparation, tree planting, forest stand improvement and riparian forest buffers.

Please contact Jim Poffel, NRCS Resource Conservationist, for more information on program eligibility and the EQIP application process at (360) 452-8894 ext. 101.



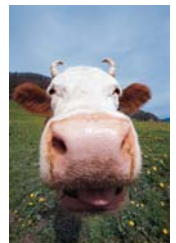
Nash's Organic Produce Receives Stewardship Award

Congratulations to Nash's Organic Produce, winners of this year's Vim Wright Stewardship Award. The award was presented to farm owner and Conservation District Supervisor Nash Huber by the *Farming and the Environment* organization during a ceremony held in North Bend in September.

The Vim Wright Stewardship Award brings together farmers and environmentalists in honoring farmers and ranchers whose stewardship practices are protecting the quality of our food and the long-term health of Washington's ecosystems. Named after the late Vim Wright, a tireless advocate for protecting Washington's environment and keeping family farms in business, the award publicly recognizes and financially rewards Washington state stewardship farmers.

Nash's operation was selected over several other deserving farms for this year's award. A slide show highlighting the many things Nash's Organic Produce does to replenish the soil, enhance wildlife habitat, and protect the environment may be viewed at <http://www.farmingandtheenvironment.org>. Nash was also honored for mentoring younger farmers and his work to preserve farmland for future generations.

Winter Tips for Horse & Livestock Owners



- ⇒ Clean out gutters and be sure downspouts are functioning properly to keep water out of barns and paddocks.
- ⇒ Remove animals from pastures during the winter to keep soil from becoming compacted and dormant grasses to become overgrazed OR put animals in a smaller pasture that will need to be reseeded next spring.
- ⇒ Ensure fresh water is available for stock watering even during freezing conditions.
- ⇒ Plan for winter feeding: - if you don't have a suitable road to your barn for a truck to make winter hay deliveries, then store enough hay to last your animals for 5-6 months (most animals eat roughly 1.5-3% of their body weight in grass hay per day).
- ⇒ Locate your manure storage structure in an area that you can easily push your wheelbarrow to dump even during stormy, dark nights.
- ⇒ If you rely on an electric fence as your main fence, be sure to have a battery powered fence charger on hand in case of power failures.
- ⇒ Check fencelines and remove any low hanging branches or dead trees that might fall on fences during high winds.



For more tips call us at (360) 452-1912 ext. 109

2007 Annual Native Plant LARGE Orders



If you are interested in ordering more than 100 native plants of the same species through our annual plant sale please contact us immediately at (360) 452-1912 x 109 for species availability and discount pricing. Prepayment is required. The **deadline for preordering large orders is November 18, 2006.**

All other orders will not be accepted until January 8, 2007. All plants are preordered for pick-up on March 3rd at a location east of Port Angeles. Order forms will be included in the Winter issue of "Conservation News" or can be found on our website <http://clallam.scc.wa.gov> beginning in January 2007.

If you want to start planning your native landscaping now, check out our website for a preview of the species that will be offered through our plant sale.

Building Green in Clallam County Just Got Easier



After a year of hard work and regular meetings by over 50 participants, the BuiltGreen™ of Clallam County checklist is complete. Last fall, the North Peninsula Building Association (NPBA) and members of the building industry were joined by the Conservation District, local jurisdictions, nonprofit organizations and interested consumers to collaborate on creating a green building program and checklist for Clallam County.

The checklist is a menu of options for building a "green" house, including techniques for low impact site development, ways to improve energy and water conservation in the home, and use of environmentally friendly building materials. Each item on the checklist is worth points. Builders or homeowners can use the checklist to guide construction, and on completion, tally up the points the house has earned. The points earned from meeting checklist standards enable the house to earn a BuiltGreen™ certification at a 1-salmon, "2-salmon", or "3-salmon" level.

The checklist will help consumers, builders and developers make construction choices that will result in homes that are more energy efficient, healthier for their occupants, and better for the environment. Because of increased demand for environmental sustainability, similar programs are gaining popularity across the country.

The checklist is currently available in hardcopy and will soon be available on-line at the NPBA website NPBA@olympen.com and the BuiltGreen™ Washington website, www.builtgreenwashington.net. Contact the NPBA at 360-452-8160 to receive an official checklist and learn about upcoming BuiltGreen™ of Clallam County activities.

10 Ways to GREEN Your House and Save \$\$\$

- * Install LED or Compact Fluorescent Bulbs.
- * Use low VOC paints and finishes for a healthy, non-toxic interior.
- * Plant drought tolerant shrubs and trees to conserve water. Landscaping can add between 7-15% to a home's value.
- * Reduce impervious surfaces on the property and limit clearing and grading to control stormwater runoff.
- * Use recycled building materials and save on construction costs.
- * Install a clothesline and use free energy from the sun and wind to dry your clothes.
- * Install windows with u-value <.32 to save on energy bills.
- * Use tile or natural materials for flooring instead of carpet to improve indoor air quality.
- * Buy ENERGY STAR © appliances.
- * When planning for a new home, design fewer windows, with at least 30% facing south. Passive solar heating reduces electric bills.

BuiltGreen™ of Clallam County PIE Grant Awarded

Clallam Conservation District provided technical assistance to the NPBA to apply for a Public Involvement and Education Grant (PIE) from the Puget Sound Action Team to develop the BuiltGreen™ program. The PIE Grant is awarded to projects that educate and involve the public in protecting and restoring the Puget Sound. Seventy-six proposals from around the Puget Sound were submitted, and the BuiltGreen™ of Clallam County project was one of only fifteen successful recipients. The committee's unique public – private partnership was instrumental in the grant award.



Clallam Conservation District is assisting the NPBA to implement the \$43,840 PIE grant, which includes training and demonstrations at the Future Builders 2006-07 homebuilding site. Future Builders is a NPBA-sponsored vocational building program for high school and college students in which students build one house a year, learning construction skills throughout the process. The grant money will be used to demonstrate low impact site development practices to reduce stormwater runoff, as well as utilize sustainable building materials, energy efficient design and healthy indoor paints and products in the building process. The project will provide opportunities to train building professionals and Future Builders as well as the public in green building principles and practices. Stop by the Future Builders site on West 10th Street between N and O Streets in Port Angeles to see some low impact development construction practices in progress.

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If you are interested in becoming a newsletter sponsor, for \$50 per year your name or the name of your business will be printed four times in the sponsor section of the newsletter, or for \$100 per year, your company business card will also be printed once a year.

The Conservation News is published quarterly and is currently reaching over 1,854 mailboxes and is available for review on our website. Your support will help us reach more people interested in getting involved in local conservation efforts.

For information on becoming a sponsor, please call (360) 452-1912 ext. 5.

Visit our website at <http://clallam.scc.wa.gov>

Corrections: In the Summer 2006 Issue of *Conservation News* we failed to credit the *Sequim Gazette* for the photo of the Helen Haller Raingarden project. We appreciate their support of conservation in our community.

Clallam Conservation District is a subdivision of state government created to promote the stewardship and conservation of natural resources in Clallam County. Public meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the USDA Service Center, 1601 E. Front St., Bldg/Suite A in Port Angeles.

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Want to help us save a tree??
Our newsletter is available in email format, so if you would like to start receiving the electronic version of our newsletter, give us a call at (360) 452-1912 ext. 5 or send an email to ccd-info@wa.nacdn.net



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